#### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

DATE: October 28, 2003

EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE POLICY ASSESSMENT DISPOSITION SHEET

FILE NO: IAB #2080656

FROM: RICHARD L. CASTRO, COMMANDER DENNIS A. CONTE, COMMANDER MICHAEL G. SAVIDAN, COMMANDER

TO: ERIC B. SMITH, CAPTAIN INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT:

CARRION, SEAN, DEPUTY # VERDUGO, GERARDO, DEPUTY # CHISM, ROBERT, DEPUTY # CHAHINE, NADER, DEPUTY #

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On January 25, 2003, Deputies Carrion, Verdugo, Chism and Chahine located and pursued 245 PC suspect J. C. Jones. Suspect Jones terminated the pursuit when he turned into and parked at a semi-truck storage and repair facility. Suspect Jones began firing a .30 caliber carbine at the involved deputies, and they returned fire. Suspect Jones received multiple gunshot wounds and died at the hospital.

On October 23, 2003, the Executive Force Review Committee convened and conducted a review regarding the facts of this case. The applicable policies that were evaluated by the committee were: 3-01/025.00, Use of Force; 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force; and 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards. Concerning:

3-01/025.00, Use of Force, 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and 3-01/025.10. Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by all deputies was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, the Committee determined that the tactics employed by the deputies were in compliance with Department policy.



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney
CURT LIVESAY • Chief Deputy District Attorney
PETER BOZANICH • Assistant District Attorney

DAVID H. GUTHMAN . Director

September 25, 2003

Captain Frank Merriman
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
5747 Rickenbacker Road
Los Angeles, California 90040

Re:

J.S.I.D. File #:

03-0066

L.A.S.D. File #:

003-80042-2812-013

#### Dear Captain Merriman:

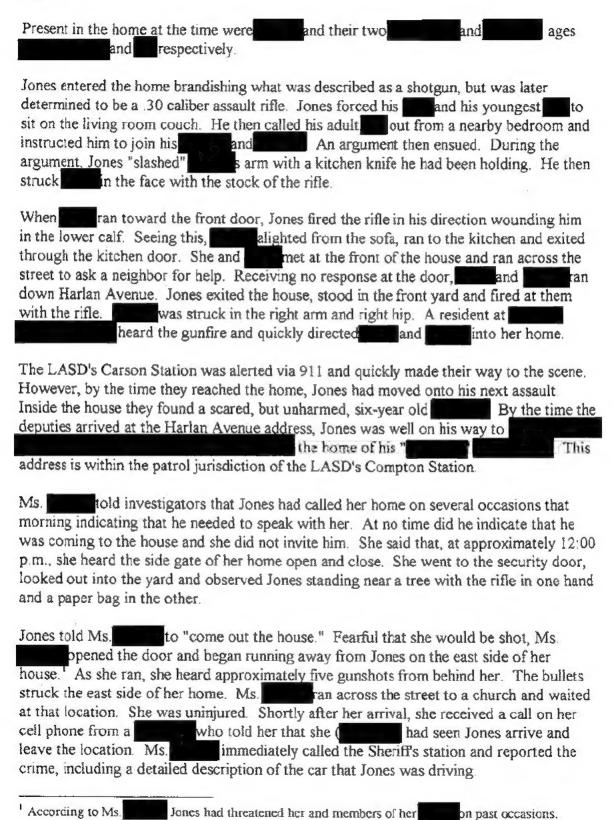
The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the January 25, 2003, fatal shooting of Joseph Carter Jones by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies Sean Carrion, Nader Chahine, Robert Chism and Gerardo Verdugo. We have concluded that the deputies acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others.

The following analysis is based on reports prepared by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), Homicide Bureau, submitted to this office by Detective Philip Martinez. Compelled statements were not considered as a part of this analysis. The District Attorney's Command Post was notified of this shooting on January 25, 2003 at 1:13 p.m. A District Attorney Response Team comprised of Deputy District Attorney Michael Kenneth Pettersen and Senior Investigator Presponded to the scene at 2:00 p.m. DDA Pettersen and Investigator Presponded to the scene at 2:00 p.m. DDA Pettersen and Investigator Presponded to the scene by Lieutenant Dan Rosenberg at 3:35 p.m.

#### **FACTUAL ANALYSIS**

On Saturday, January 25, 2003, sixty-one year old Joseph Jones embarked on a shooting spree that eventually led to his own death following a shoot-out with LASD deputies. The events began at approximately 11:30 that morning when Jones arrived at the home of his located at

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Within minutes, the Sheriff's dispatch center broadcast a description of the crime and the car that Jones was driving. Deputy Sean Carrion, assigned to uniformed patrol at LASD's Compton station, indicated that he heard both the Carson "245 call" and the Compton "246 Call." He was dispatched to the Butler Avenue shooting scene. Deputy Carrion was working a one man unit without a partner. Moments later, he heard Compton Deputy Gerardo Verdugo broadcast that he had Jones' vehicle under surveillance. Deputy Carrion terminated his response to Butler Avenue and altered his course to join Deputy Verdugo's pursuit.

When Deputy Carrion intercepted the pursuit, he noticed that Compton Deputy Robert Chism and his partner Deputy Nader Chahine had already joined Deputy Verdugo. The three patrol vehicles followed Jones' car, at a speed of approximately 50 miles per hour, as he drove down Sante Fe Avenue and turned onto El Segundo Boulevard. During the pursuit, Jones made several illegal turns and failed to stop at numerous signals and signs. As Jones reached 1717 El Segundo Boulevard, he turned into the driveway and entered the truck storage lot located at that address.

Deputy Verdugo, also assigned to a one man unit, was the first Sheriff's vehicle to follow Jones into the lot. He was followed by deputies Chism and Chahine. Deputy Carrion was the third car in line. Because he knew there was no outlet from the back or sides of the yard, Deputy Carrion stopped his vehicle just inside the driveway preventing anyone from exiting.

The truck lot is approximately the size of a football field and was occupied by several "big rig" tractor trucks and trailers. Jones drove his car approximately three quarters of the way into the lot. Deputy Verdugo followed at a distance of about thirty feet. As his car slowed, Deputy Verdugo saw Jones stick a rifle outside the driver's window of his car. Jones pointed the rifle in Deputy Verdugo's direction and fired one shot. The round struck the driver's side windshield post of Deputy Verdugo's patrol car. Jones stopped his car, opened the driver's door and got out. He immediately pointed the rifle in the direction of the deputies' patrol cars and walked to the front of his vehicle.

Deputy Chism stopped his patrol car offset and just to the rear of Deputy Verdugo's. He and Deputy Chahine both exited their car and took cover behind the car doors. Deputy Carrion also exited his car and stood in the open doorway.<sup>2</sup> Jones pointed the rifle in the direction of Deputy Verdugo and started firing. All of the deputies had drawn their guns by this time and returned fire.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The accounts that each of the involved deputies gave to investigators were extremely consistent. Therefore, their statements will be paraphrased collectively.

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During the ensuing fire fight, Jones would walk back and forth between the front and rear of his car, using the vehicle as cover. He also lowered himself into a crouched shooting position at one point. Deputies Verdugo and Carrion left their vehicles and took cover behind nearby trucks parked in the lot. At one point or another during the shooting, Jones aimed and fired upon each of the deputies and their patrol cars. The deputies described hearing bullets striking the vehicles behind which they were taking cover. Deputies Carrion and Verdugo also said that they could hear the bullets fly dangerously close to their heads.

Other LASD units had arrived on scene during the fire fight, but took cover and were never in a position to engage Jones. After nearly two minutes of gunfire, Jones slumped to the ground with his rifle out to his side. Sergeant Chuck Antuna, one of the responding units, immediately ordered a cease-fire.

The investigation revealed that thirty-eight .45 caliber rounds, fifty-nine nine millimeter rounds and two shotgun rounds were fired by the deputies. Thirteen spent .30 caliber casings were recovered. Jones was taken into custody and transported from the scene by paramedics to Martin Luther King Medical Center where he underwent emergency surgery. Jones expired during the surgery.

On January 30, 2003, Los Angeles County Coroner's Department Deputy Medical Examiner Eugene Carpenter, Jr., Md. performed an autopsy on Jones' body. The cause of death was ascribed to "Multiple Gunshot Wounds." In all, Jones received more than twenty separate wounds. Most of the wounds, with the exception of two to the arm and hand, were to his lower extremities. The results of toxicology testing to Jones' post mortem blood revealed the presence of both cocaine and opiates in his system at the time of his death.

During a search of Jones' car, investigators found a paper bag containing marijuana and cocaine as well as paraphernalia for the ingestion of both drugs. Also found in the vehicle were a six-inch wooden handled knife. A box of "Olin" .30 caliber ammunition was located atop the hood of the car. The rifle was located adjacent to the location of Jones' body before he was transported to the hospital.

Numerous civilians were present in the truck lot that afternoon. All of the civilians were transported to the Sheriff's Compton Station and interviewed. None of the witnesses directly observed the shoot-out. Most took cover behind objects that obscured their view of Jones and the deputies. Several of the witnesses did describe seeing Jones' car enter the lot followed by the deputies' patrol units. Immediately thereafter they heard what they thought were shots being fired from a "high powered" weapon followed by shots from what seemed to be smaller guns. The civilians descriptions of the gunfire were consistent with those given by the deputies.

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Investigators also interviewed a number of Jones' members. None had been present
at the shooting They told investigators that they believed that Jones had recently become
involved in drug transportation and sales. They knew that he had a serious substance
abuse problem. Investigators learned that was one of the was one of the
lot in which these events took place. Jones may have also had some type of proprietary
interest in the lot.3 Ms. Ms. was also was also of the
business. It appears that, for some time, Jones and Mr. had been feuding over
their competing interests.
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Jones

#### LEGAL ANALYSIS

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of another if it reasonably appears that the person claiming the right of self-defense or the defense of another actually and reasonably believed that he was in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. People v. Williams, (1977) 75 Cal. App. 3d 731.

If one is confronted by the appearance of danger which arouses in his mind, as a reasonable person, an honest conviction and fear that he is about to suffer bodily injury, and if a reasonable person in a like situation seeing and knowing the same facts, would be justified in believing himself in like danger, and if the person so confronted acts in fear and honest conviction, his right of self-defense is the same whether such danger is real or apparent. People v. Jackson, (1965) 233 Cal. App.2d 639.

In protecting himself or another, a person may use all force which he believes reasonably necessary and which would appear to a reasonable person, in the same or similar circumstances, to be necessary to prevent the injury which appears to be imminent. CALJIC 5.30, 5.32.

#### CONCLUSION

For reasons that may never be determined, Joseph Carter Jones embarked that January morning on a shooting spree that threatened the lives of a great number of individuals. Fortunately, none of his intended victims perished. Under the influence of cocaine and opiates, Jones armed himself with a high powered assault weapon and began his attack on unarmed civilians. Once under surveillance, Jones drove to the truck lot and turned his gun on the four pursuing LASD deputies. His .30 caliber rifle was capable of penetrating

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The true nature of Jones' interest in the truck lot remains unclear.

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both the deputies body armor and the ballistic panels installed in their vehicles. It is clear, from the number of shots he fired and the careful aim that he took while firing them, that Jones intended to kill or seriously injure one or all of the deputies. There is no question that the deputies' return of Jones' gunfire with fire of their own were acts of self and mutual preservation.

It is the conclusion of this office that Deputies Carrion, Chahine, Chism and Verdugo acted in lawful self-defense and lawful defense of others when they shot Joseph Carter Jones. We are closing our file and will take no further action on this matter.

Very truly yours,

SIEVE COOLEY

District Attorney

 $B_{V}$ 

MICHAEL KENNETH PETTERSEN

Deputy District Attorney

(213) 974-5213

c: Deputy Sean Carrion, #

Deputy Nader Chahine,

Deputy Robert Chism, #

Deputy Gerardo Verdugo, #

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## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deportment

## Officer Involved Shooting

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## Officer Involved Shooting URN: 003-80042-2852-013

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E#3	S#1	FS	IT	12	Y	Y	DH	
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E#4	S#1	FH	BR	9	Y	Υ	DH	
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#### Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

003-80042-2852-013 URN: 3\_of 6 Page nvolved Employee Employ Last Name 14 L E 1 CARRION SEAN Sex Unit Assignment: Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): WHT DEPUTY SHERIFF COMPTON **UNIT 285** ShiftTime (circle anly one): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used. Intoxication/Drug Usage? PM (Day Regular Overtime Off Duty Compar Case # Hospital Name: Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: Duty Time (hrs): Other Factors: Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest Age. Height: Weight. Pain Clothes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest 5'10" 180 Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest Dirigo Company on Ordina PC CIMILITY IN DV Lower Tentring Date: Certification Un Number of Prior Shootings Certified with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification? Pnor Shootings? Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name First Name Μŧ First Name Field Training Officer Emp # **East Name** M.I First Name Employee # E 2 **VERDUGO** Ē. **GERARDO** Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): UNIT 287 Unit Assignment: Sex: М HISP DEPUTY SHERIFF COMPTON ShiftTime (alraie aniy ane): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? PM Regular Overtime Of Duty Coroner Case # Hospital Name. Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting. Duty Cicthing (circle only one). Other Factors: Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest Plain Clothes w/ Vest Age. Helght Weight. Uniform no Vest 51111 200 Raid Jacket no Vest CUnform w/ Vest Range Qualification Date: PC Qualification Date Laser Training Date: Certification Uni Number of Prior Shootings: Certified with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification? Prior Shootings' MI. Field Training Office: Emp # Last Name First Name Field Training Officer Emp # First Name Last Name M.L Leal Name First Name M.J. Employee E 3 CHISM ROBERT C, Unit Assignment. Work Assignment (Unit #, Module etc.) Sex R209 BLK M DEPUTY SHERIFF COMPTON **UNIT 282** ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? Day Reguler Ovenime Off Duty Hospital Name: Coroner Case # Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting. Duty Time (hrs) Other Factors Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest Plain Clothes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest Age<sup>\*</sup> Height: 6'3" 260 Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest Range Qual Con Tolk LAG THEN DIM Lane Treman Dèle Number of Prior Shootings. Certified with Weapon Used? Patroi Certification? Prior Shootings? 1 Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name First Name МI

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Field Training Officer Emp #

Last Name

#### Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

003-80042-2852-013

URN:

4 of 6 Page Involved Employee Employee E 4 **NADER** CHAHINE H. Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): Sex Unit Assignment: Rank **DEPUTY SHERIFF** WHT COMPTON M **UNIT 282** ShiftTima (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? PM (Day) Regular Overtime Of Duty Hospital Name: Coroner Case # Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? [ Interviewed? Other Factors Hrs of sleep prior to shooting Duty Time (hrs): Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Height Philip Chathes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest Weight. 6'00" Uniform w/ Vest 165 Raid Jacket no Vest Range Quantication Date PPC Qualification Date Laser Training Date Number of Prior Shootings. Certification Unit. Certified with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification? **Prior Shootings?** Field Training Officer Emp ast Name First Name Field Training Officer Emp First Name asi Name MI Last Name MI First Name Employee # E, Unit Assignment: Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) Sax Race: Rank ShiftTime (circle only one). ShiftType (clicle only one): Substance Used. Intoxication/Drug Usage? Recular Overtime Of Date PM. Coroner Case # Hospital Name: Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: Duty Time (his): Other Factors: Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest Height: Plein Clothes w/ Vest Age Weight: Uniform no Vest Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Yest Range Qualification Date: PPC Qualification Date: Laser Training Date: Number of Prior Shootings Certification Unit: Certified with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification? Prior Shootings? [ First Name Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name Field Training Officer Emp # First Name Last Name M.I Employee # Last Name First Name M.L Unit Assignment: Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): Race: Rank ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used: Intexication/Drug Usage? PM Day Regular Overtime Of Duty Compar Case # Hospital Name: Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: Outy Time (his): Other Factors: Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Uniform no Vest Age Height: Weight: Plain Clothes w/ Vest Rald Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest PPC Qualification Date: Range Qualification Date: Laser Training Date Number of Prior Shootings. Certification Unit: Certifled with Weapon Used? Patrol Certification? Prior Shootings? Field Training Officer Emp # First Name MI Last Name First Name Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name MΤ

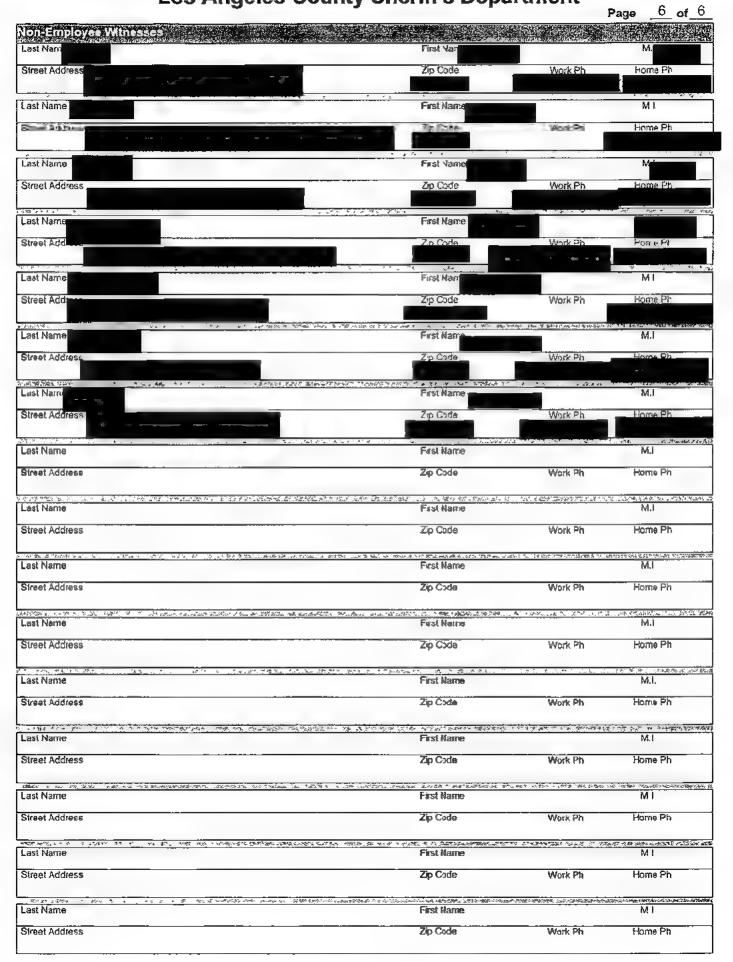
#### Officer Involved Shooting, Suspect Information

URI	003-80042-2852-013	

5 of 6

Suspect Information First Name J. Last Name JONES S 1 AKA Last Name First Name MJ **JOSEPH JONES** Street Address Sex. M Race. City Home Phone: Social Securi Work Phone: Daver's Licens Age, 63 DOB 05-03-39 Height: 5'10" Weight: 208 FBI# ÇII# Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge Coroner Case # 2003-00738 Substance Used COCAINE Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History's Vehicle Make Modet Year HONDA ACCORD 1996 Last Name First Name M.IAKA Last Name First Name MJ State & Zip Code: Rece' Street Address: Cty Sex: Work Phone: Home Phone: Social Security #: Driver's License #: D.O.B. Weraht: FBI# Age: Helpht: Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Intoxication/Drag Usage? Coroner Case? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: Year: Lasi Name First Name M.L. AKA Last Name First Name MJ. State & Zip Code: Race: Street Address: Sex City Home Phone: Social Security #: Work Phone: Driver's License # D.O.B. Weight: FBI# CII # Age: Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: Year: Last Name First Name I.M \$ AKA Last Name First Name State & Zip Code. Sex. Race. Street Address: Cly Home Phone: Social Security #: Work Phone Driver's License #: D.O.B. Weight: FBI# CII# Height: Ag¢ Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drag Usage? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Iliness? Commal History? Model: Vehicle Make Year:

## SUPPLEMENTAL NON-EMPLOYF WITNESSES Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department



## **INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY USE OF FORCE

TYPE: DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING-SUSPECT DECEASED

I.A.B. FILE NUMBER: SH 2080656

URN: 003-80042-2852-013

On Saturday, January 25, 2003, Sergeants Richard Smith, Joseph Gooden and Jerry Greene, along with Licutenant Stacey Lee of the Internal Affairs Bureau responded to 1717 El Segundo Bivd., Compton (Unincorporated County Area), regarding a Deputy Involved Shooting involving Compton Station personnel. Lieutenant Daniel Rosenberg and Detectives Phillip Martinez, Jeffrey Leslie, Paul Fournier and Richard Tomlin from Homicide Bureau were on scene to conduct the criminal investigation.

The summary of this incident is based on physical evidence collected at the scene by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Crime Lab personnel as well as information obtained from interviews of the involved employees and witnesses, whose individual statements are contained in the Homicide Bureau case package (refer Exhibit A).

#### INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

Carrion, Sean, Deputy Verdugo, Gerardo, Deputy Chism, Robert, Deputy Chahine, Nader, Deputy





5'10"/180LBS 5'11"/200LBS 6'03"/260LBS 6'00"/165LBS

#### EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY

#### CARRION, Sean

Date of Employment
Date Assigned to Patrol
Completed Patrol Training
Prior Founded Force Incidents



#### VERDUGO, Gerardo

Date of Employment
Date Assigned to Patrol
Completed Patrol Training
Prior Founded Force Incidents



#### CHISM, Robert

Date of Employment
Date Assigned to Patrol
Completed Patrol Training
Prior Founded Force Incidents



#### CHAHINE, Nader

Date of Employment
Date Assigned to Patrol
Completed Patrol Training
Prior Founded Force Incidents



#### SUSPECT

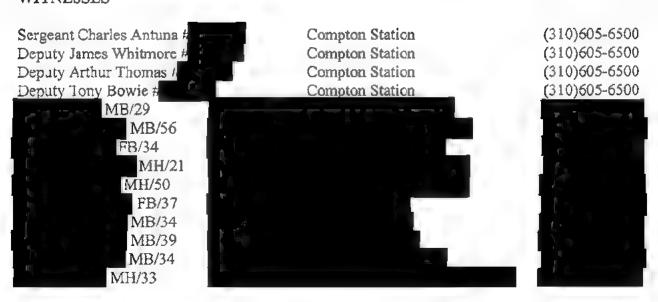
Jones, J. C.

MB/63

5'10"/208LBS



#### WITNESSES



#### **INJURIES**

Deputy Personnel: NONE

Suspect: DECEASED

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Twelve spent .30 caliber shell casings were found around the suspect vehicle (refer Exhibit A, Pg 40)

Multiple bullets strikes were located in the suspect vehicle, a 1996 Honda Accord Lic (refer Exhibit A, Pg 37).

Two bullet strikes were located in Deputy Verdugo's radio car #SD1540 (refer Exhibits A, Pg 34&G).

Four bullet strikes were located in Deputy Carrion's radio car #SD1549 (refer Exhibits A, Pg 33&F).

A spent .30 caliber bullet was located in the residence at refer Exhibit A, Pg 70).

#### INVESTIGATOR OBSERVATIONS:

The location of the incident was semi-triangular in shape approximately 300 feet long, 160 feet wide at the entrance narrowing to approximately 80 feet at the rear of the location. Tractor trailer rigs in various configurations were parked on the east and west sides of the location creating a funnel from the front to the rear (refer Exhibit B&D). The suspect vehicle was located approximately two-thirds of the way into the location and the first radio car was approximately sixty feet south and behind the suspect vehicle (refer Exhibit B&E).

#### WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

Deputy Carrion, Sean #

Department authorized Heckler and Koch, Model U.P.S., .45 caliber semiautomatic pistol, fired thirty-nine rounds of Department authorized 45 caliber ammunition.

Deputy Verdugo, Gerardo #

Department issued Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, semiautomatic pistol, fired fifty-four rounds of Department issued ammunition.

Deputy Chism, Robert, #

Department issued Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, semiautomatic pistol, fired nine rounds of Department issued ammunition.

Department issued Ithaca, fired two rounds of .00 buck shot

Deputy Chahine, Nader, #

Department issued Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, semiautomatic pistol, fired eight rounds of Department issued ammunition.

#### WEAPON USED BY THE SUSPECT

Suspect Jones, J. C.

Rifle, "Universal" .30 caliber carbine, fired thirteen rounds (refer Exhibit I).

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE:

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Radio Car #SD1549 received a bullet strike to the windshield on the drivers side. The turn signal lamp on the drivers side received a bullet strike (refer Exhibit F).

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Radio Car #SD1540 received a bullet strike to the drivers side door post and to the drivers side rear door (refer Exhibit G).

1985 Peterbilt tractor, license to the R/O R/O received bullet strikes to its radiator and grill. was paid \$3,400 00 in civil damages.

1997 International tractor, license # R/O received bullet strikes to its cab. was paid \$6,000.00 in civil damages.

Sliding glass door at the state of the state

#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR AND CHARGES FILED:

Detective Martinez, Phillip, # Homicide Bureau Detective Leslie, Jeffrey, # Homicide Bureau

No charges were filed due to the suspect's dying as a result of this incident.

#### LIGHTING OR WEATHER CONDITIONS:

This incident occurred during day light hours. The weather was clear and unseasonably warm.

#### INVOLVED EMPLOYEES STATEMENTS:

Deputy Sean Carrion #

Deputy Carrion said that on the day of the incident he was assigned to Unit 285, a one man unit working the East Rancho Dominguez area. He was wearing a Sheriff's Department short sleeve, Class A Uniform with hard badge and shoulder patches. He had a nylon Sam Browne gun belt and his duty weapon was an H&K .45 caliber, Model USP.

Deputy Carrion said that he overheard a radio broadcast in Carson Stations area of an Assault

with a deadly weapon call His attention was drawn to this call because he believed that it resulted in a barricaded suspect situation. Shortly after he heard this call he was assigned to handle a shooting at an inhabited dwelling call in the East Rancho Dominguez area. He instructed assisting units to switch to frequency L-Tac in order to coordinate the response. While on L-Tac he heard Deputy Verdugo request a repeat of the suspect vehicle's license number and realized that Deputy Verdugo was following the suspect vehicle. All units then returned to Dispatch 9, Compton Station's "working" frequency.

As he responded to Deputy Verdugo's location, he realized that Deputy Chism and his partner Deputy Chahine were also following the suspect. He caught up with the suspect vehicle on Santa Fe Ave. and took a position behind Deputy Chism as the third radio car following the suspect vehicle. The suspect vehicle turned west on El Segundo Blvd. As the suspect vehicle approached 1717 El Segundo Blvd. he saw the suspect vehicle move to the right as if to yield to the Sheriff's traffic stop. He drove to the left of Deputy Chism's radio car in order to be in a position for a felony traffic stop. The suspect vehicle did not stop, but rather turned right into the B&B Transport truck yard at the location. Due to the suspect vehicle driving into the truck yard, he was now the second radio car in line, directly behind Deputy Verdugo

Once inside the truck yard he saw numerous tractor-trailer rigs parked on the east and west side of the location. He followed Deputy Verdugo and the suspect vehicle "deep into the yard" noting that the suspect vehicle's brake lights went on and off as he moved into the yard. He saw Deputy Verdugo's driver's side door open and the suspect vehicle slow to approximately 1 to 2 MPH. As the suspect vehicle's brake lights came on, he saw the suspect point a gun out the driver's window in the direction of the following deputies. He saw Deputy Verdugo exit his radio car by the driver's door, with his gun out, and heard several gunshots, which he believed came from the suspect's direction

He stopped his radio car approximately 80 feet south of the suspect's vehicle, exited his radio car and positioned himself between the open car door and the body of the vehicle drawing his duty weapon as he did so. He heard two gunshots and saw bullet casings ejecting from the suspect's rifle, who was still seated in his vehicle. He saw Deputy Verdugo, crouched next to his radio car return fire. It was at this time that he became in fear for his life taking into consideration the suspect's high powered rifle and the fact that his bullets would penetrate his body armor. With that in mind, he fired two rounds from his duty weapon at the suspect, but did not know if he had hit the suspect.

He saw Deputy Verdugo move to the west and stop next to a truck tractor. After hearing multiple gunshots fired in his direction, he moved to Deputy Verdugo's position, where he saw the suspect aiming his rifle at them and firing several shots at them. He fired approximately eleven rounds at the suspect and he and Deputy Verdugo went empty. He reloaded his duty weapon, hearing two rounds go past his head as he did so. He saw the suspect leaning over the trunk of the suspect vehicle and he fired approximately twelve additional rounds at the suspect. As he was firing at the suspect, he saw Deputy Verdugo, in a kneeling position, also firing at the suspect.

He exchanged magazines and moved in a northerly direction, took a kneeling position and fired several more rounds at the suspect. From this position he could see the suspect moving from the front of his vehicle to the rear, firing his rifle in various directions toward the radio cars and toward Deputy Verdugo and himself. He fired approximately twenty more rounds at the suspect and believed he was hitting him; however, the suspect did not go down. Deputy Carrion said that because of the suspect's actions, he believed that the suspect was wearing body armor. He moved to a position near the rear axle of a flatbed trailer and took a prone position. He continued firing from this position and as he exchanged magazines, he saw the suspect turn and fire at him. He saw dirt "kick up" to the left of his face. He fired several more rounds at the suspect and then saw the rifle go into the air and the suspect laying on the ground. He approached the suspect, noted the suspect was bleeding and that he had apparently lost a finger in the gunfight. He saw Deputy Whitmore remove several boxes of bullets from the suspect's pocket.

#### Deputy Gerardo Verdugo #

Deputy Verdugo, on the day of the incident, was assigned to Unit 287, a one man unit, working the unicorporated area of Gardena. He was wearing a Sheriff's Department short sleeve Class A Uniform with a nylon Sam Browne gun belt. His gun belt held a radio, tape recorder, four magazines and a Department issued Beretta 9MM handgun.

Deputy Verdugo said that at approximately 1215 or 1230 hours on the day of the incident, he heard a radio call of an illegal shooting on Butler Ave. in East Rancho Dominguez. As he was responding to the location of the illegal shooting call, the call was updated to include a description of the suspect vehicle. He stopped responding to the Butler Ave. location and began looking for the suspect vehicle in the general vicinity.

While he was southbound on Long Beach Blvd. he saw a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle description traveling northbound on Long Beach Blvd. with a male black approximately 60 years of age as the driver. He made a u-turn, caught up with the vehicle and confirmed, with Compton Station personnel on frequency L-Tac, the license plate of the suspect vehicle. After learning that he was following the correct vehicle, he returned to Dispatch 9 and initiated a Code 9. He followed the suspect vehicle to northbound Santa Fe Ave. and as they reached Rosecrans Ave., sufficient assisting units had joined him. He activated his red lights and siren in order to conduct a traffic stop of the suspect vehicle. The male occupant looked in his rear view mirror, then accelerated to approximately 50 MPH. The suspect vehicle continued northbound Santa Fe Ave. failing to stop for red traffic lights. The suspect vehicle turned westbound onto El Segundo Blvd., cutting off several other vehicles as he did so.

As the suspect vehicle approached 1717 El Segundo Blvd., the suspect activated his right turn indicator and Deputy Verdugo said that he believed the suspect was going to pull over. The suspect d.d not pull over, but rather turned into the business at 1717 El Segundo Blvd., which contained numerous tractor trailers. He followed the suspect into the location traveling at approximately 5 to 10 MPH. When the suspect was approximately one half to two thirds of the

way into the truck yard, he pointed a rifle out the open drivers window at Deputy Verdugo, firing one round as he did so.

He heard one round strike his radio car near the drivers door (refer Exhibit G), stopped his vehicle approximately 60 feet south of the suspect's vehicle and exited the radio car by the driver's door. Fearing for his life and the lives of the other deputies, he returned fire (3 or 4 rounds) and ran to the west where he found cover behind a truck. He saw the suspect exit his vehicle and point his rifle in his direction. He again fired (unknown number of rounds) at the suspect who was fully exposed near the driver's door of the suspect vehicle. At this point, Deputy Carrion joined him and he reloaded his duty weapon. He fired an additional 3 or 4 rounds and repositioned himself under the truck. Prior to repositioning, he saw the suspect pointing his rifle at Deputy Carrion and heard a loud report and saw windows breaking as the suspect continued firing.

He repositioned himself behind the trailer and saw that the suspect was now crawling toward the front of the suspect vehicle, firing from the prone position as he did so. He saw the suspect's legs were exposed and he began firing at them, recalling that he may have also exchanged magazines at this time also. He saw that the suspect was down at the same time the aero unit broadcast that the suspect was no longer holding the rifle. He and Deputy Carrion approached, noted the suspect was still alive and took control of the rifle, which he gave to Sergeant Antuna.

#### Deputy Robert Chism #

Deputy Chism, on the day of the incident, was assigned to Unit 282, working the northeast area of the City of Compton, with his partner and Deputy Nader Chahme. He was the book man and Deputy Chahine was the driver. He was wearing a Sheriff's Department long sleeve Class A uniform with hard badge and shoulder patches. He had a nylon Sam Browne gun belt which held a radio, O.C. spray, baton, two magazines and his duty weapon, a 9MM Beretta.

Deputy Chism said that at approximately 1217 hours he responded to a "shots fired" call on Butler Ave. in East Rancho Dominguez. In the call a vehicle description of a "small vehicle" was given. As they were responding the call was updated to include a license number for the suspect vehicle. He then heard, on frequency L-Tac, that Deputy Verdugo had found the suspect vehicle and was following it eastbound on Alondra Blvd. They caught up with Deputy Verdugo, who was Code 9 behind the suspect vehicle traveling northbound Santa Fe Ave. at Compton Blvd.. He advised on frequency Dispatch 9 that he was the second radio car and he would broadcast the pursuit.

The suspect vehicle turned westbound on El Segundo Blvd, and he saw that the driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle. As the suspect approached Grandee Ave, and El Segundo Blvd, it appeared to be slowing and was going to yield to the radio cars. As the suspect vehicle slowed, so did he and Deputy Verdugo. As they slowed, he saw Deputy Carrion move along the left side of their radio car. The suspect vehicle did not yield; however, it did turn right into the business at 1717 El Segundo Blvd., which was a business housing tractor-trailer rigs. Having prior

knowledge of the location, he knew that there was no exit on the north end of the yard. He saw Deputies Verdugo and Carrion proceed into the yard trailing the suspect vehicle.

He instructed Deputy Chahine to stop their radio car at the entrance to the yard and he did so approximately 6 to 8 feet inside the entryway. As their radio car came to a complete stop, he heard two gunshots from a rifle. As he exited the radio car he saw the suspect leaning outside the driver's door of the suspect vehicle, pointing his rifle toward Deputies Verdugo, Carrion, Chahine and himself. He ran to Deputy Verdugo's radio car, which was approximately 60 feet from the suspect, and concealed himself between the open passenger door and the body of the vehicle. While in this position, the suspect fired several rounds in his direction and fearing for his life, he returned fire, firing two or three rounds at the suspect. He then retreated to the passenger side of Deputy Carrion's radio car which was behind Deputy Verdugo's.

From his new position, he saw the suspect pointing and shooting toward Deputies Verdugo and Carrion, who were positioned west of their radio cars by a large tractor-trailer. He saw the suspect moving around his vehicle and continuing to fire in the direction of Deputies Verdugo and Carrion. He removed the shotgun from Deputy Carrion's radio car and saw the suspect at the right front of his vehicle. He fired one shotgun round at the suspect as the suspect continued to fire his rifle at the deputies positions. He fired a second shotgun round at the suspect. After several more rounds had been exchanged with the suspect, he saw Sergeant Antuna, standing to his right, behind a truck, raise his hand in a "hold" sign. He requested paramedics and the suspect was handcuffed by Deputies Verdugo and Carrion.

#### Deputy Nader Chahine#

Deputy Chahine, on the day of the incident, was assigned to Unit 282, working the northeast area of the City of Compton, with his partner and Deputy Robert Chism. He was the driver and Deputy Chism was the book man. He was wearing a Sheriff's Department Class A short sleeve uniform with hard badge and shoulder patches. He had a Sam Browne gun belt which held a radio, O.C. spray, two magazines and his duty weapon, a 9MM Beretta

Deputy Chahine said that a short time after noon he heard a radio broadcast of an Assault with a deadly weapon had occurred on Butler Ave. in the East Rancho Dorninguez area, with the suspect described as a male Black. He also heard that Deputy Verdugo had located the suspect vehicle and was Code 9 west on Compton Blvd. from Long Beach Blvd. He responded to Deputy Verdugo's location and joined the Code 9 as the second unit As they proceeded north on Santa Fe Ave., his partner, Deputy Chism, initiated and broadcast a pursuit.

The suspect vehicle drove northbound Santa Fe Ave. to westbound El Segundo Blvd. turning into the business at 1717 El Segundo Blvd. As the suspect vehicle turned into the location, he saw Deputy Carrion turn in front of them and behind the suspect vehicle. He stopped their radio car approximately 15 feet past the entryway leading into the business and approximately 45 feet behind Deputy Carrion's stopped radio car. As the radio cars came to a stop, he heard gunfire and saw Deputy Chism run toward Deputy Carrion's radio car. He ran to the rear of Deputy

Carrion's radio car, and saw the suspect pointing his rifle at him and the other deputies He then joined Deputy Chism behind the open right front passenger door of Deputy Carrion's radio car. Fearing for his life, he fired three or four rounds at the suspect from that position.

He then went around Deputy Carrion's radio car and took a position at the drivers door of Deputy Carrion's radio car. He heard a round strike Deputy Carrion's radio car and moved back and east, taking a position behind and under a trailer within the truck yard. He lost sight of the suspect and moved one trailer north. From that position he saw the suspect in a kneeling position, firing his weapon in a southwesterly direction. He then fired an additional three or four rounds. He saw the suspect was laying on his side and not moving. He heard a cease fire on the radio and all the shooting stopped. As deputies approached the suspect and secured him, he met Deputy Chism, who handed him a shotgun and told him to secure it. He put the shotgun in Deputy Carrion's radio car. The suspect was attended by paramedics and transported to a hospital.

#### WITNESSES STATEMENTS:

#### Sergeant Charles Antuna #

Sergeant Antuna said that he was assigned as the field sergeant for day shift at Compton Station on the day of the incident. At approximately 1200 hours he heard a radio call of a "man with a gun, shots fired." on Butler Ave. in Compton Stations area. The radio call was updated to include a vehicle and suspect description. A short time later Deputy Gerardo Verdugo advised that he was following the suspect vehicle on Santa Fe Ave.

He responded to that location and saw the suspect vehicle, with four radio cars behind it, traveling north on Santa Fe Ave. at the intersection with Rosecrans Ave. The suspect vehicle sped north to El Segundo Blvd. and turned west, failing to stop at two red traffic lights. At the location (B&B Transport), the suspect turned into the parking lot followed by two radio cars. He stopped in the driveway of the location along with another radio car.

He exited his radio car and immediately heard "skip fire" coming in his direction. He found cover behind a truck and looked around it in order to locate the suspect. He saw the suspect running around the suspect vehicle as if he was trying to use it for cover. He saw unit 284, Deputies Thomas and Bowie, across from him and told them to hold their positions as he could no longer see the suspect. The location became quiet for a few seconds and he told everyone to stop firing. He went toward his radio car in an effort to get a better view of what was happening. He saw Deputy Carrion by himself to the northwest of everyone else. He instructed Deputies Thomas and Bowie to try and reach Deputy Carrion's position. At this point he heard and saw bullets skipping past him and he realized that the suspect was shooting again. He heard deputies returning fire and then heard two shotgun blasts from Deputy Chism.

He heard over the radio that the suspect was down, so he, utilizing a hand signal, ordered a cease

fire. He along with two deputies approached the suspect. He saw the suspect laying on the ground with a rifle under his legs and requested paramedics. He advised the suspect that the paramedics were en route, at which time the suspect said, "They were mad at me, so I was mad at them."

### Deputy James Whitmore #

Deputy Whitmore said that he was working a one man unit with a ride-along, Witness

He was responding to an "Assault with a deadly weapon just occurred" radio call on
Butler Ave. when it was updated that Deputy Gorardo Verdugo was following the suspect
vehicle. Deputy Verdugo later updated his actions to a pursuit of the suspect vehicle.

He responded to the area given by Deputy Verdugo and first saw the suspect vehicle at Van Ness Ave. and Rosecrans Ave. He joined the pursuit as the fourth radio car as the suspect vehicle drove west on El Segundo Blvd.

The suspect vehicle turned into the parking lot of the location (B&B Transport) followed by the three radio cars that were in front of him. He stopped his radio car on El Segundo Blvd. in front of the driveway to the location. He instructed Witness to remain in the radio car as he exited. At this point he heard gunshots and radio traffic of a "998" (Deputy involved in a shooting). He immediately went to the west of the location and found cover behind a truck. From his vantage point, he heard bullets flying in his direction. He said he identified the sound of a 9MM handgun, a .45 cal. handgun, a shotgun and an assault rifle being fired and could see deputies firing in a northward direction.

He heard someone say, "Cease Fire" and moved further north, finding cover behind another truck. He could see Deputy Sean Carrion behind a truck still further north of his location and moved to join him at Deputy Carrion's request. When he arrived at Deputy Carrion's position, he saw the suspect laying on the ground and a rifle laying next to him. He and Deputy Carrion approached the suspect and handcuffed him. The paramedics arrived and transported the suspect to the hospital.

#### Deputy Arthur Thomas #

Deputy Thomas said that he and his partner, Deputy Bowie, were assigned the assist on a shooting call on Butler Ave. While they were responding to the call they were advised by Deputy Gerardo Verdugo that he was following the suspect vehicle. He responded to assist Deputy Verdugo and met him at Santa Fe Ave. and Elm St., becoming the third radio car in the pursuit. The suspect proceeded north on Santa Fe Ave. and turned west on El Segundo Blvd. The suspect vehicle turned into the truck yard at 1717 El Segundo Blvd. And the radio cars in front of him followed. He followed the radio cars into the truck yard, stopped his radio car just inside the gate and exited. He immediately heard gunshots and found cover behind a truck that was parked on the east side of the yard, hearing builets "whizzing" by his head as he did so.

As the gunshots continued, he was able to move and reach Deputy Robert Chism's location on the passenger side of Deputy Carrion's radio car. He saw Deputy Chism retrieve a shotgun from a radio car and fire two rounds at the suspect. Deputy Nader Chachine reported that the suspect was not moving and he heard Sergeant Antuna order a cease fire. He became a part of the arrest team and approached the suspect who was laying on the ground. A deputy recovered the suspect's rifle and the suspect was transported to Martin Luther King Hospital.

#### Deputy Tony Bowie #

Deputy Bowie said that he and his partner, Deputy Thomas, were assigned the assist on an "Assault with a deadly weapon" radio call. As they were responding to the call, the call was updated that a unit was following the suspect vehicle. He located the suspect vehicle and the deputies at Long Beach Blvd. and Elm St. He became the third radio car following the suspect vehicle as it proceeded north on Long Beach Blvd.

The suspect vehicle turned west on El Segundo Blvd., failing to stop for the red light and a pursuit was initiated. The suspect vehicle turned into a truck yard followed by the radio cars. He stopped his radio car at the entrance to the truck yard and immediately exited the radio car. As he was exiting he could hear bullets coming in his direction and immediately found cover behind a truck parked on the east side of the location.

He said that different types of guns were being fired and he could hear bullets going by him and bouncing off the ground. He could not see where the bullets were coming from and after several exchanges of gunfire, he realized that deputies were involved in a gunfight. During a lull in the shooting he looked around the truck he was behind and saw Deputy Chism in front of him. He saw another deputy give the "Code 4" sign and indicate that the suspect was down.

At Sergeant Antuna's direction, he approached the suspect and saw a rifle on the ground next to him. As he searched the suspect for additional weapons, the suspect said to him, "You should have killed me." The suspect was handcuffed, paramedics arrived and he rode with the suspect to the hospital.

heard what he thought were firecrackers and saw dirt being kicked up around him. He walked west to catch the person throwing the firecrackers. At this point he saw a deputy and heard him yelling at him to get down on the ground. He realized that he and the deputy were being shot at and immediately dove to the ground. He saw four deputies, one of whom was carrying a shotgun, run past him. Being familiar with guns, he knew someone was firing an assault rifle at the deputies by the sound and that they were firing at him and the deputies because the bullets were traveling from the north to the south. He estimated that the suspect fired thirty rounds and the deputies fired fifty rounds.

said that he was on the northeast side of the location when he saw a burgundy car (Suspect's vehicle) enter the location. He heard "popping" sounds which he believed was a generator backfiring, however, it was followed by several continuous popping sounds, which he now identified as gunshots. He crawled under a truck and saw the feet of deputies running north and simultaneously heard a barrage of gunfire. From his vantage point on the ground he saw deputies taking cover behind radio car doors and the trucks that were parked in the lot. After an estimated 150 rounds had been fired, the shooting stopped.
at the location, said that he was standing on the west side of the parking lot when he saw a burgundy car (Suspect's vehicle) enter the lot followed by approximately seven radio cars with their sirens on. Seconds later, he heard gunshots, but could not tell from which direction they were coming from. At this point, he could tell the gunshots were coming from the north. He said that he did not see anyone shooting, but only heard the gunshots.
said that he was at the location which was parked on the east side of the driveway to the location. He saw a car drive into the lot at a high rate of speed followed quickly by several radio cars with their overhead lights and sirens activated. As the red car turned into the lot, he saw the driver (Suspect Jones) fire a gun in the direction of the pursuing deputies and the bullets struck the ground at his feet. He then heard a barrage of gunfire, which stopped for a couple of seconds, and then heard two loud shots. The gunfire then stopped.
said that he was standing on the sidewalk outside and east of the driveway to the location. He saw a red car with a male driver (Suspect Jones) enter the lot followed by approximately seven radio cars with their red lights and sirens on. Shortly after, he heard gunshots and he hid behind a light post. Approximately two minutes later the shooting stopped. He did not see anyone shooting.
said that he was sitting in his car which was parked on the east side of the lot between two trucks. He saw a red car (Suspect's vehicle) enter the location at a high rate of speed followed by three radio cars with their lights and siren activated. A radio car stopped in front of him and he saw a deputy get out and fire three shots. Almost immediately after he heard

multiple gunshots. He exited his vehicle and did not see anyone else fire any shots.

said that she was participating in a ride-along with Deputy James Whitmore. She heard a radio broadcast of a shooting that occurred in the city of Compton with a vehicle and suspect description. Later, she heard another radio broadcast in which a deputy stated he had located the vehicle used in the Compton shooting. Deputy Whitmore responded to assist the deputy following the suspect vehicle and joined the pursuit as the fourth radio car. All the radio cars had their red lights and sirens activated.

The suspect vehicle proceeded north on Sante Fe Ave. to west on El Segundo Blvd. failing to stop at red traffic lights as he did so. The suspect turned into the parking lot of the location followed by the three radio cars which were in front of Deputy Whitmore. Deputy Whitmore stopped his radio car in the street in front of the location and east of the driveway. Deputy Whitmore exited the radio car telling her to stay down. She heard one gunshot and ducked down inside the radio car. She then heard a barrage of gunfire. She did not see the shooting.

said that he was driving east on El Segundo Blvd. when he saw an older man (Suspect Jones) driving west on El Segundo Blvd. Being pursued by several radio cars. The radio cars had their red lights and sirens activated. As he passed the radio cars he heard one of the deputies telling the suspect, over the P. A., "This is the L. A. County Sheriff's Department, pull the vehicle over now." He did not see the shooting.

said that she was standing in of her second on El Segundo Blvd. when she saw a car traveling east on El Segundo Blvd. followed by several radio cars that had their red lights and sirens activated. As they passed her, she heard one of the deputies over the P. A. system, tell the pursued car two or three times to "Pull over." The cars then drove into the parking lot of B&B Transport. She did not see or hear the shooting.

said that he is the saw a helicopter flying over his and went to investigate. He learned that a shooting had occurred at his the learned that a shooting had occurred at his same the shooting.

#### SUSPECT STATEMENTS:

Suspect Deceased